

Congressman Jeff Flake

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, October 22, 2008

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Congressman Flake Pans USDA Suggestion of Ethanol Bailout

Ethanol Policies Need Reform, Not Bailout

Mesa, Arizona – Republican Congressman Jeff Flake, who represents Arizona’s Sixth District, today panned a suggestion by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that it might bail out ethanol producers hurt by corn prices.

“The federal government’s ethanol policies have driven up the price of corn,” said Flake. **“But rather than reforming the policies that have caused a spike in corn prices, the federal government wants to bail out ethanol producers who speculated on the price of corn. Only the U.S. Department of Agriculture could dream up a policy like this.”**

“The high price of corn has had a ripple effect over our entire economy. Instead of trying to bail out every industry hurt by it, the federal government needs to take a serious look at reforming our ethanol policies.”

Congressman Flake has introduced the RIPE Act (H.R. 5911), which would repeal government incentives to produce ethanol, including the renewable fuel standard, tax credits for ethanol producers, and tariffs and duties on importing ethanol.

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